

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 02165 101655Z

44

ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 FEAE-00 (ISO) W

----- 122703

R 101636Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6673

INFO ERDA GERMANTOWN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 2165

EO 11652 NA

TAGS TECH ENRG CA US

SUBJ NUCLEAR ENERGY POLICY

REF DEPT A-3800

1. INCREASINGLY THE EMBASSY IS SEEING INDICATIONS IN THE PRESS AND DEPT TRAFFIC THAT OUR NUCLEAR ENERGY PROGRAM IS UNDERGOING A FUNDAMENTAL REEXAMINATION WHICH COULD RESULT IN SOME VERY BASIC CHANGES IN ITS ORIENTATION. AS THE DEPT AND ERDA ARE AWARE, THE HEAVY WATER REACTOR SYSTEM OFFERS A NUMBER OF TECHNOLOGICAL OPPORTUNITIES WHICH THE LWR SYSTEM CANNOT MATCH, ESPECIALLY AS IT RELATES TO THE THORIUM CYCLE, AND THE CANADIANS NOW HAVE APPROXIMATELY A 7-YEAR LEAD IN THIS TECHNOLOGY. THESE HEAVY WATER SYSTEM ALTERNATIVES CAN OFFER THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXTEND SIGNIFICANTLY URANIUM RESERVES, AMONG OTHER THINGS, WHICH WE UNDERSTAND TO BE OF CONCERN FROM REPAIR.

2. THE DEPT AND ERDA SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THE EMBASSY HAS RECENTLY HAD SEVERAL INDICATIONS FROM THE NEW AECL MANAGEMENT TEAM, WHICH TOOK OVER AFTER GRAY RETIRED THIS PAST WINTER, THAT IT REMAINS RECEPTIVE TO A RESUMPTION OF THE COOPERATIVE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THIS FIELD WHICH WAS TERMINATED IN 1968. IF NEW APPROACHES ARE INDEED BEING SERIOUSLY EXAMINED, THIS OPPORTUNITY SHOULD NOT BE OVERLOOKED AS ONE POSSIBILITY.

PORTER

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PAGE 02 OTTAWA 02165 101655Z

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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